# UNDERSTANDING THE UK FIANCE VISA: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE

O The <u>UK Flance Visa</u>, also known as the UK Prospective Marriage Visa, is designed for individuals who wish to come to the UK to marry their British or settled partner. This visa allows the applicant to stay in the UK for six months, during which time the marriage must take place. After getting married, the applicant can apply to switch to a spouse visa, allowing them to live in the UK for a more extended period.

## Eligibility Criteria

• To be eligible for the UK Fiance Visa, you and your partner must meet specific requirements:

# 1. Relationship Requirements:

- O You must intend to marry within six months of your arrival in the UK.
- O You must have met each other in person.
- Your relationship must be genuine and subsisting.
- You must intend to live together permanently after marriage.

# 2. Financial Requirements:

- O Your partner must be able to financially support you without recourse to public funds.
- The financial requirement is an annual income of at least £18,600, which increases if there are dependent children involved.
- O Savings can also be used to meet the financial requirement.

### 3. Accommodation:

O You must have suitable accommodation arranged where you can live together without needing public funds.

# 4. English Language Requirements:

 You must demonstrate English language proficiency by passing an approved English language test at A1 level or having a degree taught in English.



# **Application Process**

The application process for a UK Fiance Visa involves several steps:

- 1. Online Application: You must complete an online application form on the UK government's official website.
- **2.** Supporting Documents: Gather and submit necessary documents, including:
  - Proof of relationship (photos, communication, etc.)
  - Proof of meeting in person
  - Financial documents (bank statements, payslips, etc.)
  - Accommodation details
  - English language test results
- **3. Biometric Appointment**: Attend a biometric appointment to provide fingerprints and a photograph.
- **4. Application Fee**: Pay the visa application fee, which covers the processing of your application.
- **5. Processing Time**: Wait for your application to be processed, which typically takes up to 12 weeks.

# After Arriving in the UK

• Once you arrive in the UK on a Fiance Visa, you have six months to get married. During this period, you cannot work or study. After the marriage, you can apply to switch to a spouse visa, allowing you to stay in the UK for an extended period and gain access to work and study opportunities.

### **Switching to a Spouse Visa**

To switch to a spouse visa after getting married, you will need to:

- 1. Submit an Application: Complete and submit an application to switch to a spouse visa.
- 2. Provide Evidence: Provide evidence of your marriage, such as a marriage certificate.
- 3. Meet Financial Requirements: Demonstrate that you continue to meet the financial requirements.
- **4. Biometric Information**: Attend another biometric appointment.
- **5. Application Fee**: Pay the application fee for the spouse visa.

### Benefits of the UK Fiance Visa

The UK Fiance Visa offers several benefits, including:

- 1. Reuniting with Your Partner: It allows you to join your partner in the UK and prepare for your wedding.
- 2. Path to Permanent Residency: After getting married and switching to a spouse visa, you can eventually apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) and British citizenship.
- 3. Family Life: It provides an opportunity to start your married life together and plan your future as a family in the UK.

### Conclusion

The UK Fiance Visa is an essential pathway for those wishing to marry their British or settled partner and start a new life in the UK. By understanding the eligibility criteria, following the application process diligently, and preparing for the post-marriage steps, you can navigate the visa process successfully. Remember to maintain thorough documentation and seek professional advice if needed to ensure a smooth and successful application journey for your UK Fiance Visa.